



Australian Energy  
Research Laboratories Pty Ltd

## USER'S MANUAL

**COOLMAX MAXIMIZER**  
**Australian Energy Research Labs**

AER01.003 – ver 3  
24 May 2010

# **AERL CoolMax Maximizer**

## **User's Manual**



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## 1 OVERVIEW

The AERL Coolmax Maximizer is a high efficiency, buck only, common positive peak power point tracker.

It employs a tracking strategy which has been proven to be highly robust, immune to local extrema, and results in power losses of less than 0.5% over the whole operating temperature range of a PV Array.

The versatility of the Coolmax Maximizer makes it an ideal choice for battery charging, pumping, DC motors and other solar powered applications.

The Maximizer range can also be used for Micro-Turbine (uTurbine) applications including hydro and wind using a fixed turbine voltage set point to approximate the peak power voltage.

Additional features include:

- High 98 – 99% operating efficiency.
- Smart multi-stage battery charging profile.
- Support for active temperature compensation.
- Compatible with all types of solar cells and battery arrays.
- Onboard meter module for performance monitoring.
- Passive cooling & no moving parts results in highly reliable operation to 50°C .
- Rugged protective enclosure with easy access door. (optional)
- Support for low battery alarm or automatic low battery switch off circuit.

Note: For convenience, this user's manual is oriented towards solar Maximizers being used to supply a battery pack. For those supplying a DC pump, or using the uTurbine version of the Maximizer, the majority of the information is still relevant and it is still recommended to become familiar with the contents of the manual. Section 9 details the critical information specific to operating the Maximizer with a DC pump or using the uTurbine version of the Maximizer.



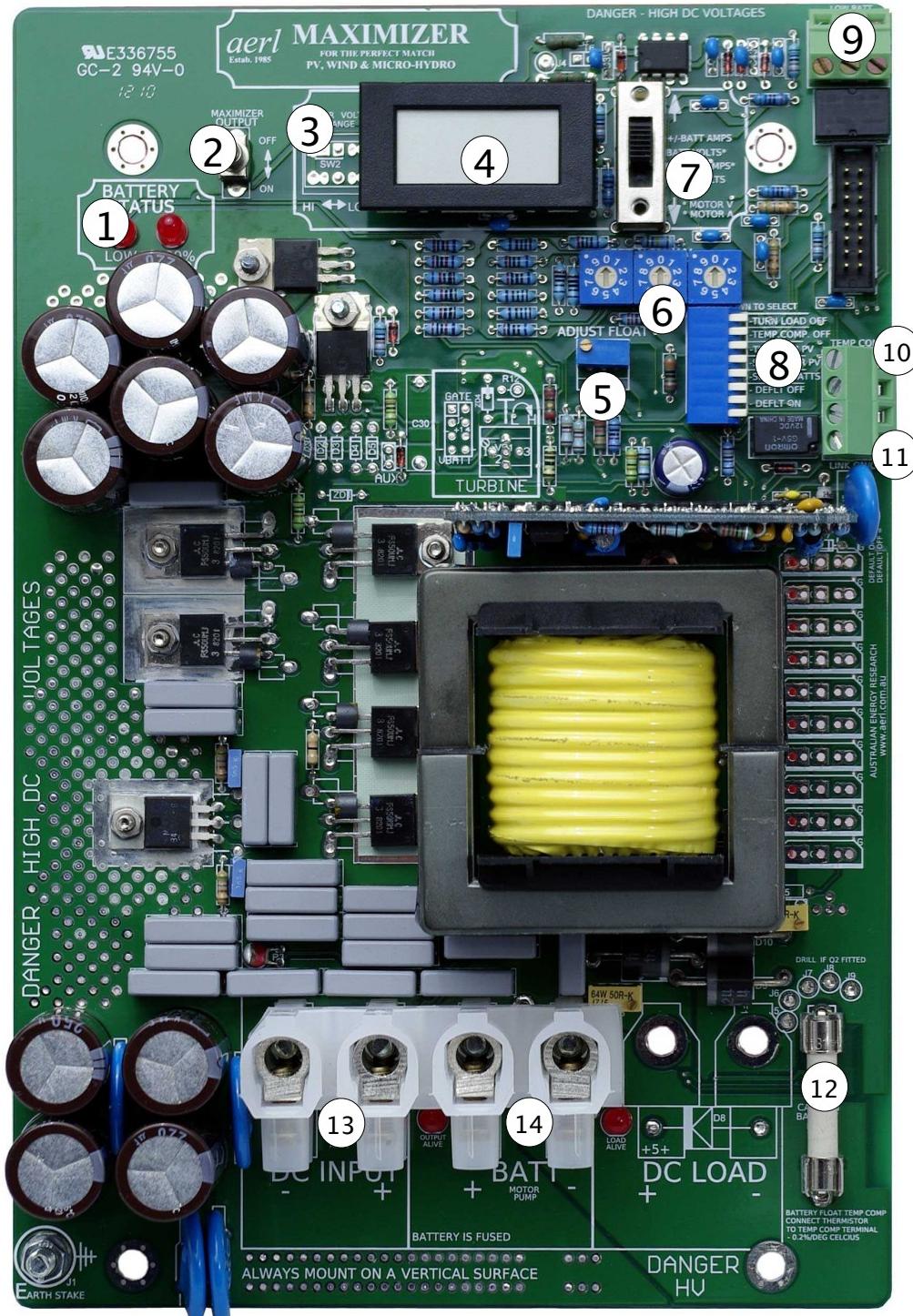
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## 2 MAXIMIZER LAYOUT





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Position	Name	Function
1	LED status indicators	Low battery light activates at 10.5V/12V battery voltage. 100% full light activates when batteries have finished auto equalize.
2	On/Off switch	Switches Maximizer on/off.
3	Meter range toggle (HV only)	Choose between high and low range output for meter module.
4	LCD meter module	Displays input voltage, output voltage, output current, battery current.
5	Battery 100% Float adjustment trimpot	Adjusts battery 100% float level
6	Battery nominal voltage dials	Used for setting the nominal battery pack voltage. Can be used for speed control in pump/motor applications.
7	Metering mode switch	Choose between metering input voltage, output voltage, output current, battery current.
8	Piano dipswitch	1. Set up the Maximizer for sealed batteries, different types of solar arrays. 2. Turn Temperature Compensation on or off. 3. Control whether the Maximizer is "On by default" or "Off by default" for remote control.
9	Low battery alarm / Genset control	Provides normally closed and normally open outputs which are activated when low battery LED comes on. This can be used for a remote alarm system or for genset control to charge the batteries.
10	Temp comp sensor header	Attach PTC thermistor to battery pack with wires into the header.
11	Remote control header	Terminals of header can be linked for remotely controlling the Maximizer. Can be used as input from a sensor such as float switch in pumping applications.
12	Battery fuse	Protection against reverse connection of the batteries & overcurrent situations.
13	PV input terminal	Input from solar array.
14	Battery/pump/ DC motor output terminal	Output to batteries/pump/motor.



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### 3

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

**WARNING: THE DC VOLTAGE LEVELS AT WHICH THE MAXIMIZER CAN OPERATE, CAN BE POTENTIALLY LETHAL IF HANDLED WITHOUT ADEQUATE CAUTION. INSTALLATION MUST BE CARRIED OUT ONLY BY A QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN AND ALL APPLICABLE SAFETY CODES ADHERED TO.**

**DO NOT EXCEED THE CURRENT AND VOLTAGE RATINGS LISTED IN THE DATASHEET. TO DO SO, IMMEDIATELY VOIDS THE WARRANTY.**

- In particular the PV Input Open-Circuit Voltage and Power rating must not be exceeded.
- **Note: The power rating of the Maximizer varies depending on V<sub>nom</sub> (nominal battery voltage) and V<sub>mp</sub> (peak power voltage of solar panels – available from panel datasheet). Check the charts in the datasheet to find an approximate power rating at your desired operating point. Not being aware of the power rating at your operating point can lead to premature failure.**
- Always ensure that the Maximizer On/Off switch is set to off and the Maximizer Off switch on the Piano switch is depressed before making or breaking any connections.
- Never touch the Maximizer while the input OR output breakers are closed. This includes when the Maximizer is switched off on the PCB. Switching off the Maximizer does not isolate the Maximizer, and any part of the circuitry may have lethal voltages present.
- Always measure the PV Open-Circuit Voltage and Polarity and Battery Polarity before closing the circuit-breakers and making the final connection to the Maximizer.

### 4

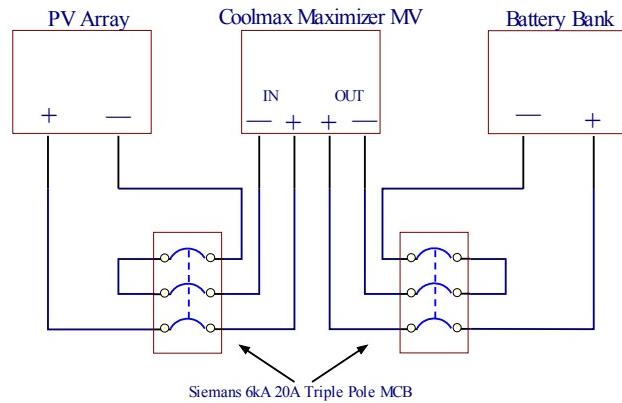
## CIRCUIT BREAKERS

**ALWAYS FIT DC RATED INPUT AND OUTPUT PROTECTION CIRCUIT BREAKERS – DO NOT USE FUSES**

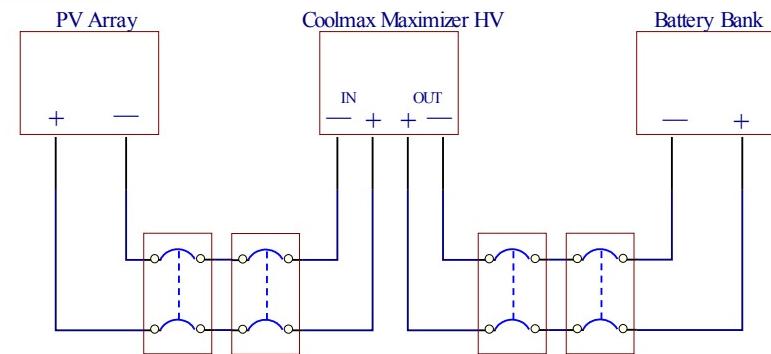
Always select at least 6kA rated breakers, as these have a better DC arc quenching capability than the only slightly less expensive and more common 4kA breakers. If available, 8kA or 10kA breakers are the very best choice for DC systems.

AERL recommends the use of Siemans or similar brand 6kA MCBs as an inexpensive breaking solution. (Example: Siemans Part No. 5SJ62206KS). Refer to figure 4.1 on the following page to determine the appropriate breaker types and wiring configuration for LV, MV, HV and XHV Maximizers. For XXHV units, a high voltage DC breaker will be needed.

### MV MAXIMIZERS



### HV MAXIMIZERS



### XHV MAXIMIZERS

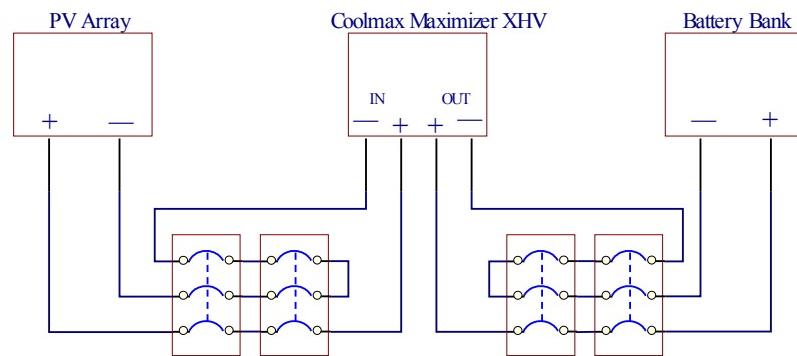


Figure 4.1: Recommended breaking configuration for LV,MV,HV and XHV Maximizers.

## **5 MOUNTING**

### **5.1 LOCATION**

- If possible, the Maximizer should be mounted vertically (on a wall or similar) with the meter at the top to maximize convection cooling.
- If the Maximizer is to be mounted in a cabinet, ensure that the cabinet is large and adequately ventilated. Do not mount the unit anywhere that airflow is restricted.
- Never mount the unit in a sealed enclosure, it will overheat.
- Power transfer efficiency through the Maximizer will be better the cooler the unit is kept.
- Do not mount the unit where rain or direct sunlight can reach the unit, or where moisture condensation can affect the unit
- The cables should always route down out of the Maximizer so that moisture condensation on the cables drips away from the electronics.
- The Maximizer should be mounted out of reach of children.

### **5.2 ENCLOSURE**

When supplied in an optional high quality IP66 enclosure, the Coolmax Maximizer ships with additional mounting brackets with screws for fitting directly to the bottom of the enclosure using pre threaded holes.

The mounting brackets are simple to install and the bracket can be bolted onto the mounting surface in a variety of configurations.

Note that the screw should be tightened firmly to avoid having the bracket rotate during installation.

The enclosure must be provided with protection from rain and direct sunlight.



*Figure 5.2: The mounting bracket fastened to the bottom of the IP66 enclosure.*



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## 5.3

### BARE PCB

Mounting the bare PCB version of the Coolmax Maximizer should be performed using the supplied M5 bolts and spacers.

If possible, the Maximizer should be bolted onto a flat mounting plate which can then in turn be mounted in the desired location.

Always keep the minimum space behind the board as set by the spacers to avoid short circuits caused by materials touching the back of the PCB.

## 6

### INSTALLATION

#### 6.1

#### EARTHING

- AERL recommends that the Maximizer be utilized in a floating system (no earthing) whenever possible. For very exposed systems, it is recommended that a lightning conductor be provided nearby to prevent damage to PV equipment, batteries and the Maximizer.
- For systems using Sunpower PV arrays, it is necessary to provide a positive earth for the array. This can be implemented by connecting the Earth Stake (bottom left corner of the Maximizer) directly to earth.
- If a negative earth is used for the batteries or DC system, do not earth the array.
- If a negative earth is used for either the batteries or DC system, never earth the Maximizer via the Earth Stake.

#### 6.2

#### CONNECTIONS

- Ensure that the Maximizer is switched OFF.
- Use appropriately rated wire to connect PV input and battery bank output. Polarity is indicated on the board. Reversing polarity of input or output will cause damage to the Maximizer.
- Install circuit breakers as described in Section 4.
- Check the polarity of the input and output with a multimeter before switching on the Maximizer.
- Do not touch the Maximizer PCB when live wires are connected to the input or output terminals – even if the Maximizer is switched OFF, lethal voltages are still present in the circuitry on the PCB.



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#### 6.3 SETTING THE NOMINAL BATTERY VOLTAGE USING NUMERICAL DIALS

- The three numerical dials are used to set the nominal battery voltage. (Located at position 6 on the Maximizer diagram in Section 2)
- Refer to the quick reference tables below to get the appropriate setting for your battery pack.
- Users wanting to make fine adjustments to their battery float voltage should refer to Section 5.5.

Quick Reference Guide for Setting Float Voltages: HV Units

<b>Nominal Voltage</b>	<b>HV Units</b>		
	<b>Numerical Dial Setting</b>		
48V	0	2	4
72V	0	4	8
96V	0	7	2
108	0	8	4
120V	0	9	6
144V	1	2	0
168V	1	4	4

Quick Reference Guide for Setting Nominal Voltages: MV Units

<b>Nominal Voltage</b>	<b>MV Units</b>		
	<b>Numerical Dial Setting</b>		
12V	0	0	0
24V	0	1	2
36V	0	2	4
48V	0	3	6
60V	0	4	8
72V	0	6	0
84V	0	7	2



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### 6.4

### ADVANCED FLOAT VOLTAGE SETUP

This section caters to users wanting more control over the output voltage of the Maximizer.

The float battery voltage is set using the numerical switches, and the float trimpot (positions 5 & 6 on the Maximizer diagram in Section 2).

In typical applications, the numerical switches set the nominal pack voltage, while the float trimpot adjusts the percentage above nominal that the pack will actually float when fully charged.

*Example: A 12V nominal, flooded lead acid battery is fully charged at  $2.35/2 \times 12 = 14.1V$ .*

*The numerical switches would set the 12V, while the float trimpot controls the  $2.35/2$  fully charged percentage.*

#### 6.4.1

#### Setting Nominal Battery Voltage Using Numerical Dials

##### HV users

- Offset: 24V
- Take the nominal voltage of your pack and subtract 24V.
- Dial this number into the numerical dials.
- Example: You have 12 batteries in series, all of which are 12V batteries, giving you a nominal battery pack voltage of 144V. Now subtract the offset.  $144 - 24 = 120$ . So dial 120 into the numerical switches. The switches should read

1	2	0
---	---	---

##### MV users

- Offset: 12V
- Take the nominal voltage of your pack and subtract 12V.
- Dial this number into the numerical dials.
- Example: You have 4 12V batteries in series, giving you a nominal battery pack voltage of 48V.  $48 - 12 = 36$ . So dial 36 into the numerical switches. The switches should read

0	3	6
---	---	---



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#### 6.4.2 Adjusting the Float Trimpot

Maximizers have the default 100% battery float voltage set to 2.35V/2V before shipping. This value can be adjusted using the trimpot labelled “Battery 100% Float” near the piano dipswitch.

NOTE: This float voltage should not be adjusted without good reason. The voltage can only be adjusted when the Battery 100% LED is ON.

##### Adjustment Procedure

1. Set the switch next to the built in LCD meter display to battery volts.
2. Adjust the battery float trimpot: clockwise = higher
3. The voltage will move very slowly, so the adjustment should be made patiently over several minutes.

As a guideline for adjustment, the battery float voltage changes by about 1% of nominal voltage for one complete turn on the trimpot. So if the nominal voltage is 48V, one turn of the trimpot will adjust the float voltage by roughly 0.48V.

#### 6.5 BATTERY CHARGING SETUP

- The batteries are charged using a 108% of Final 100% Float Voltage, Automatic Equalise Voltage / Anti-Sulphation charging profile.
- The default setting for Maximizers is for 2.35V/2V flooded lead acid batteries. For sealed lead acid batteries also depress the appropriate switch on the piano dipswitch to set the float level to 2.3V/2V lead acid cell.
- Press down the 3<sup>rd</sup> Piano Dip Switch marked THIN FILM SILICONE, if the PV Panels being used are of the Amorphous Thin Film type.
- Press down the Fourth Piano Dip Switch marked SUNPOWER SILICONE, if the PV Panels being used are the high performance SUNPOWER™ BRAND. (This setting is also suitable for GaAs Panels).
- IMPORTANT: To avoid overloading the Maximizer, pay attention to the warnings given in Section 3. As mentioned in Section 3, it is important to avoid connecting the Maximizer to a PV Array if its power rating exceeds quoted power rating of the Maximizer for that given battery bank voltage. To do so will overload the current handling capabilities of the product, most likely cause damage to the board and void the warranty.

#### 6.6 TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION

- If precise battery case temperature compensation is required, unscrew the Thermistor from 13 & 14 and solder it to a suitable light 2 core cable and adhere the thermistor to the battery case with neutral-cure silicone rubber adhesive. Connect the other ends of the two core cable back into the thermistor terminal block 13 & 14.



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- If the Temperature Compensation Feature is not required, simply always press down the 2<sup>nd</sup> Piano Dip Switch (TEMP COMP. OFF) to take it out of circuit. This also drops the Float and Auto-Equalise Voltage Levels by approximately 1%.

## 6.7

### LOW BATTERY DETECTION AND RELAY ALARM

- The low battery light will become lit at a voltage level of approximately 1.9V / Lead acid cell.
- A low battery isolated alarm relay changes state when the battery light is on. The isolated contacts are accessible at screw terminals marked LOW BATT – 6,7 and 8 on the bottom right corner of the board.
- The relay contacts are rated at 1Amp/30V (30W) with 1000V isolation.
- The relay remains SET until the battery is once again charged and FULL (a full 108% charge equalise cycle is complete). This means that the relay can be used for generator control.

## 6.8

### REMOTE CONTROL

The remote control header is a 2-way angled terminal block marked LINK ON/OFF on the Coolmax PCB. The terminals can be linked to either switch the Maximizer on or off.

There are two options for remote control

- Link for ON (off by default).
- Link for OFF (on by default).

These options are selectable on the piano dipswitch using the DEFLT ON and DEFLT OFF buttons.

If DEFLT ON is selected, the Maximizer will be on by default when the on/off switch is switched on. Linking the remote control outputs will turn the Maximizer off.

If DEFLT OFF is selected, the Maximizer will be off by default (even when the on/off switch is switched on). Linking the remote control outputs will turn the Maximizer on.

Selecting both switches at the same time is not harmful. If both switches are selected the state is ALWAYS OFF. If neither are selected the state is ALWAYS ON.



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## **7 OPERATING GUIDELINES**

Ensure that the Maximizer is switched OFF before making any electrical connections or closing any Input and Output Circuit-Breakers.

### **7.1 CONFIGURING THE UNIT**

The output voltage is configured using the 3 numerical switches – as outlined in Section 5.4. Set the type of battery being used (flooded lead acid/sealed lead acid), and the type of solar panel array in use using the piano dipswitch.

### **7.2 USING THE ONBOARD LCD METER MODULE**

The onboard LCD Meter Module can be used for operational onsite diagnosis of the Maximizer performance.

The 4 position slide switch to the right of the meter module switches between the available measurements. The 2 position toggle switch to the left of the meter changes the output range of the meter.

Input Volts	Displays the <b>input voltage</b> being fed into the the Maximizer. To read PV Open-Circuit Volts, turn the Maximizer OFF. To read Vmp (Max Power Volts) or TURBINE SET-POINT VOLTS, turn the unit ON, but without the BATTERY 100% LED being lit up. i.e. with the Maximizer not regulating.
Output Amps	Displays the total MPPT <b>output current</b> . Changing the range setting while in this mode has no effect.
Battery Volts	Displays the <b>output voltage</b> (battery voltage or motor voltage depending on the MPPT's application).
+/- Batt Amps	Displays the <b>battery current</b> (positive current means the battery is charging and negative current means the battery is discharging). Changing the range setting while in this mode has no effect.  Unless the <b>DC Load Option</b> or <b>Turbine Load-Dump Option</b> is enabled in your particular MPPT and a load connected to terminals 5 & 6, this setting will always read the same as the Output Amps setting.

## **8 PV ARRAY CONFIGURATION NOTES**

### **8.1 OPTIMAL PV ARRAY CONFIGURATION**

A Maximizer runs at peak efficiency when connected to a PV panel with the minimum recommended open circuit voltage specified in its datasheet.

The losses in the Maximizer rise a little, the more the Maximizer has to step down from the PV Max Power Voltage to the Battery Bank Voltage.

The input open circuit voltage (Voc) must be above a certain minimum for the Maximizer to run.

**Note: The minimum input voltage of the Maximizer changes depending on the nominal voltage of the battery pack in use. The rule of thumb is  $V_{oc} > 1.65 \times V_{nom}$ . Check the datasheet for a graph to show the minimum input voltage depending on battery pack voltage.**



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## 8.2 PV INPUT BLOCKING DIODE

A PV Input blocking diode should not be used as long as the open circuit voltage of the PV array is within the range specified by the datasheet for the appropriate Maximizer model and battery voltage.

The idea of the blocking diode is to prevent night time reverse leakage from the battery into the PV array. However the diode introduces power wastage during operation which outweighs the leakage, resulting in a net power loss.

## 8.3 PV MODULE POWER RATING AND MOUNTING CONSIDERATIONS

The nominal power output rating of a particular PV Module is specified by the PV Module Manufacturer, at One Sun (1000W/sq.m of sunlight radiation) and 25 degrees Celcius.

PV Module Maximum Power Voltage (and consequently maximum power) falls off by 4% per every 10 degrees celcius that the PV panel rises above this 25C specification, so typical panel temperatures on a hot summers day of 65C will result in a panel power derating of 16% of the manufacturers rating.

It is best to mount the PV Array in a way that the hot air behind the panels can easily escape via the natural breezes or convection. So don't mount the PV Array flat against the roof surface, but ensure there is at least 400mm spacing below the panels.

Small gaps (20-30mm) left between adjacent panels are also a good idea to let out the hot air from the sides.

NOTE: Around 80% of the sun-light energy falling on the solar cells is converted directly into heat, not electricity, and heat is the power output enemy of PV modules.



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## **9 SPECIAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

### **9.1 WATER PUMPING APPLICATIONS**

#### **Note: All Battery models can be used for water pumping applications**

Select the pump/motor drive ratio such that the output motor current is minimised for maximum pumping system performance.

Never exceed the Maximizer Output Current Rating for pumping nor the DC Motor Name-plate Current Rating.

Always fit a motor circuit-breaker with a trip current no greater than the Maximizer OUTPUT AND/OR motor current ratings.

DO NOT use LOW VOLTAGE DC MOTORS, if a higher voltage PV Array configuration will allow the use of a higher voltage / lower current motor types.

For example don't use a 24V motor with 12 PV modules configured 3-in-series / 4-in-parallel when a 60V or 90V motor could be used with a more efficient, 6-in-series / 2-in-parallel PV module configuration.

Ideally, the Motor / PUMP Pulley Drive Ratio is selected, (usually in the field, at Mid-Day Peak PV Output), so that the DC Motor is operating at 110-120% of its name-plate voltage rating. This ideal drive ratio, results in maximum overall system operating efficiency and easy, early morning starting of the pump motor. Use the built-in LCD Multimeter to set-up this MOTOR VOLTAGE and then set to MOTOR AMPS to check the MOTOR CURRENT.

Never exceed the motor name-plate current and Maximizer output current rating for pumping and always fit an output circuit breaker to protect the DC Pump motor from overload.

### **9.2 MICRO-TURBINE MAXIMIZERS**

#### **9.2.1 Overview**

The uTurbine series of Maximizers takes in rectified output of a turbine driven by hydro or wind power. The uTurbine Maximizers cannot process AC power, an appropriately rated diode rectifier must be used.

If required, the uTurbine Maximizers implement overspeed protection for the turbine by switching in a load dump resistor or other load when the battery is too full to accept charge. This load will need to be designed by the system installer and must be rated to dissipate the full power rating of the turbine.

The uTurbine Maximizers can and should be set to operate the turbine at a fixed voltage set point. This allows the user to approximately determine a Maximum Power Point for the turbine for the typical wind-speed/water-speed conditions that the turbine experiences.



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### 9.2.2

### Selecting the Load Dump Regulation Power Resistor

The load dump regulation power resistor needs to be connected to terminals marked DC Load on the Micro-Turbine Maximizer. The following paragraphs will explain the load dump regulation technique and how to arrive at the value for the load dump regulation power resistor.

The Micro-Turbine Maximizers use a very different Battery Regulation method than the PV Maximizers, which simply unload the PV panels to limit the power flow to the battery bank, once it reaches the 108% of Float Equalise Level and subsequently drops to the 100% FLOAT/FULL battery voltage level.

The DUMP-LOAD method, ensures that the Turbine remains always fully loaded and does not run away to high open-circuit voltages that may damage the Turbine and/or Maximizer, once the battery bank is FULL.

Instead of the 108% equalise level, the Float Trimpot – F, is set to the top or final battery equalise level, at which point the DUMP LOAD is switched-in and cycles the battery bank down approximately 12% in terminal voltage and is then switched-out again.

This BATTERY FULL cycling automatically repeats itself, as long as the Turbine is outputting more power than is required to keep the battery at the FULL Voltage, pre-set via the 100% Float Trimpot – F.

EXAMPLE: With a PV System, charging a 48V Battery Bank, where F is typically set to 56.5V (2.35V/cell), giving a 108% battery equalise voltage of 60.4V. On a Turbine System, F is typically set to 59.0V (2.46V/cell) and cycles between this voltage and 52.0V (2.16V/cell) while in the cyclic DUMP-LOAD BATTERY REGULATION MODE.

The Turbine Load-Dump Resistor must be selected to match or exceed the expected Peak Turbine Output Power. Use the simple formula

$$V^2 \text{ divided by Turbine Peak Power} = \text{Load Dump Resistance},$$

where V is the Final FULL Battery Charge Voltage selected by the Battery 100% Float Trimpot – F.

For a 48V nominal Battery Bank, with  $V_{full} = 59V$ ,  $V^2 = 3481$ . For a Peak Turbine Power of say 1000W for example; Load Dump Resistance = 3.5 ohms. For a Peak Turbine Power of 500W; Load Dump Resistance = 7 ohms.

Slightly lower than calculated resistance values can be used, but not higher values, as they will not fully load the Battery at peak Turbine power output.

Set the Built-in Digital Multi-Meter to read +/- BATT AMPS to check that the load-dump resistor current is a small negative value (battery slightly loaded and discharging), as expected, so as to ensure correct cyclic battery regulation. Confirm the cyclic regulation.



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### 9.2.3 Low Battery Circuitry on u-Turbine Units

On Micro-Turbine Units fitted with the Load-Dump Option, the Low Battery Circuitry is actually re-calibrated (to the voltage values listed above) and used to switch the Load-Dump power MOSFETs On & OFF. This means the isolated Low Battery STATUS Relay terminals 7, 8 & 9 can now be used to either monitor the status of the battery load-dump resistor (IN or OUT of circuit), or to control an external load-dump relay and alternative load-dump resistor. They no longer indicate a LOW BATTERY State, on Micro-Turbine Maximizers.

### 9.2.4 Setting the Turbine Operating Set Point Voltage

Switch the Maximizer ON (at both ON switches) and select the LCD Multi-Meter to read BATTERY AMPS.

For Wind Turbine Maximizers, using the AERL 3-PHASE TURBINE RECTIFIER BOARD, fitted with the Turbine Lock-Down Switch, unlock the Wind Turbine by opening this switch, if not already open. For u-Hydro units, turn the water feed fully ON to the Turbine.

Trim-pot T is factory set during testing, for a Maximizer Input Voltage of 100V, as a typical Turbine starting set-point. Slowly adjust, (clockwise to raise, anti-clockwise to lower), the 20-turn SET TURBINE TRIMPOT - T, located just below the BATTERY LOW / 100% LEDS, until the maximum BATTERY AMPS value is reading on the LCD meter. The Turbine is now running at its 100% Maximum Output Power, for the given water-flow or wind-speed.

This T Voltage Setting can be re-optimised or checked at any time to yield maximum charging current, but is best left set for typical seasonal location condition.

## 10 TROUBLESHOOTING

### 10.1 LOW BATTERY LIGHT OFTEN COMES ON

This could indicate that the PV system is underpowered, never reaching a full 108% equalise value. The battery life will be severely compromised in this situation. The more often the LED comes on, the more power should be added to the PV array.

Solution: Add more PV modules to the array to increase the power output.

If the array is sufficiently powerful, but the LED is still very often on, check that the Maximizer is set up for the correct voltage of the battery pack. See section 5.5 for adjusting the battery float voltage. Also check that the Maximizer is charging the battery by checking the output current on the LCD meter, and if the Maximizer is not functioning continue to 10.2.



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### 10.2

#### UNIT DOES NOT CHARGE THE BATTERY

If Temperature Compensation is not being used (default setup) ensure that the switch marked Temp. Comp. OFF (switch number 9) is *pressed down*. Not doing so may cause the unit to behave strangely.

If this is not the cause of the problem, check the following:

- All connections to the Maximizer are secure and screw terminals are done up tight.
- Check the integrity of the blue circular MOVs. These are surge protectors and will fail destructively in the event of circuit overload. This could indicate a fault with the unit and it should be returned for repair.
- Check the integrity of the large crowbar diodes located below the main inductor winding. These fail destructively if a reverse polarity is applied. The unit will need to be returned for repair.
- Check with a multimeter that the input voltage is sufficient to power the Maximizer. If the input voltage is below the minimum input voltage of the Maximizer the unit will not power up.
- **Note: The minimum input voltage of the Maximizer changes depending on the nominal voltage of the battery pack in use. The rule of thumb is  $V_{oc} > 1.65 \times V_{nom}$ . Check the datasheet for a graph to show the minimum input voltage depending on battery pack voltage.**
- Email [techsupport@aerl.com.au](mailto:techsupport@aerl.com.au) with the details of your set up, problem description and Maximizer model.

### 10.3

#### BATTERY BANK USING EXCESSIVE WATER (ELECTROLYTE)

The battery bank is lightly loaded compared to the input PV power and rarely comes off FLOAT voltage.

Solution: Press the 5th Piano Dipswitch marked “Sealed Batts” to drop the FLOAT voltage by 2.5%.

### 10.4

#### BLOWN FUSE

The fuse must be replaced with a 500VAC, 30A, 3AB size fuse. These are available directly from Digikey [www.digikey.com](http://www.digikey.com), order code F3260-ND. Alternative, contact AERL to have a replacement sent out.



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#### **11 WARRANTY INFORMATION**

1. AERL warrants that the Product will be free from manufacturing defects for a period of 24 months from the date of dispatch of the products by AERL to the customer.
2. The Products technical specifications are contained within the Product Datasheet. The Product will conform to the technical specifications contained in the Product Datasheet at the time of dispatch of the Products to the Customer. If the technical specifications as contained in the Product Datasheet are not met, AERL will repair, replace the Product, or refund the amount paid by the Customer in relation to the Product at the Customers option. AERL is under no obligation to provide assistance or advice to the Customer in relation to the technical specifications.
3. The Products must be installed in strict accordance with the Installation Recommendations listed in this Manual.
4. In no event will AERL be liable for:
  - a) any loss or damage which the Customer suffers arising from, or caused or contributed to by, the Customer's negligence or the negligence of the Customer's agents or servants; and
  - b) special, indirect or consequential loss or damage as a result of a breach by the Customer of these Standard Terms including, without limitation, loss of profits or revenue, personal injury, death, property damage and the costs of any substitute Products which the Customer obtains.
5. The Product is not covered for damage occurring due to water, including but not limited to condensation, moisture damage and other forms of precipitation.
6. The Product is not covered for damage occurring due to the Product being incorrectly installed or installed in a manner not in accordance with the Installation Recommendations listed in the Product Manual.
7. The Product is not covered for damage occurring due to failure on the part of the customer to operate the product in accordance with the technical specifications as listed in the Product Datasheet.
8. The Product is not covered for damage occurring due to lightning.
9. The Product is not covered for situations where it is used in a manner not specifically outlined in the Product Manual.
10. If any provision in this document is invalid or unenforceable this document will remain otherwise in full force apart from such provision, which will be deemed deleted.